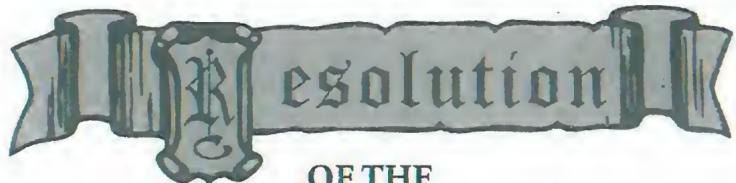


Dated: September 24, 2013

  
OF THE  
**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**  
OF THE

COUNTY OF SONOMA, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**COMMEMORATING THE PACIFIC 500 "BIRTHDAY" OF NUNEZ DE BALBOA  
NAMING THE OCEAN, AND RECOGNIZING THE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE  
WORLDWIDE OF GOLDEN STATE HISTORY FOR THE LEARNING INITIATIVE OF  
PACIFIC GEOGRAPHY, TRADE AND HISTORY**

**WHEREAS**, 2013 marks the 500th anniversary of when Spanish conquistador and explorer Vasco Núñez de Balboa in Panama, on September 23, 1513, became the first European to see the Pacific Ocean and claimed the waters and all of its shores for Spain; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1507, the German cartographer Martin Waldseemüller printed the globe map with the name America, to first depict a new continent, not of Europe, Africa or Asia, and the image of a new western ocean, now known as the Pacific; and

**WHEREAS**, the California name originates in the myth of Queen Calafia, as the beautiful African warrior queen who ruled her island realm of riches, first introduced around 1500 by the Spanish writer Garci Rodríguez de Montalvo's popular novel entitled Las Sergas de Esplandián (The Adventures of Esplandián), to inspire the searching Conquistadors to believe they might find a nation of women and fertility somewhere on the Pacific Coast at the edge of the known world; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1769, the King of Spain authorized the last colony of Alta California on the Pacific, with ships from San Blas-Mexico arriving to secure safe harbors for the Acapulco-Manila trade, maintained as a commercial route linking the Philippines with Mexico and Peru from 1565 until 1815; and

**WHEREAS**, in 1821, Mexican Independence of Alta California Province attracted explorers, immigrants, individualists and youth from the empires of Britain, Russia, Prussia, France, United States, Portugal, China that came by way of Pacific maritime routes, sailing around the Cape Horn of South America, and voyaging from ports in Chile, Hawaii, Alaska, Australia, as well as the overland routes from Mexico and Missouri; and

**WHEREAS**, the bio-interaction movement across the world oceans of pioneer populations and animals caused new germs to introduce new diseases, often devastating the indigenous inhabitants, but resulted in the cultivation of agricultural staples to support a growing population; and

**WHEREAS**, Sonoma County today is a treasure for cultural heritage exploration due to the global seafaring influences, in particular the coast's Russian Fort Ross, Mexico's last California mission founded at Sonoma Plaza, the Vallejo family hide trade at Petaluma, the Tuscan village of Occidental, and seawolf Jack London at Glen Ellen; and

**WHEREAS**, Californians benefit from the Pacific-America world view by applying the push-pull analysis of influences in history to the geo-knowledge framework of geography-geology, climate-botany, transportation-commerce, and human settlement and migration; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County, hereby commemorates the 2013-15 celebration of Balboa naming of the Pacific Ocean and the Panama Canal 100th Anniversary, to open the Pacific-America windows of world geography, transportation routes and how early migrations influenced the native populations of Miwok, Pomo, Wappo, and Patwin tribes, founding of agriculture, and building of towns; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Board of Supervisors of Sonoma County proclaims the month of September Pacific 500 Renaissance for the citizens of Sonoma County to help reawaken Californians' thirst for understanding the unique fact that the global diversity of seafaring populations shaped the cultural capacity for creativity in enterprise in the history of California, and expand knowledge around the world for peace on this monumental occasion.



  
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